

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-01

SP-02 INR-05 SY-02 SCCT-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

/041 W

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P R 291530Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7997

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 989

LIMDIS

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR SHERER

E.9. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, CZ

SUBJECT: HARASSMENT OF DISSIDENTS

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED FROM GERMNA DCM AND REUTERS
CZECH EMPLOYEE (PROTECT BOTH SOURCES) THAT WIDESPREAD
SEARCHES HAVE BEEN GOING ON AMONG
THE 1968 FIGURES.

2. APPARENTLY THESE SEARCHES WERE SOURCE OF
WIDESPREAD BELIEF AMONG THESE PEOPLE (AS REPORTED
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REFTEL) THAT A NUMBER HAD BEEN ARRESTED. ACCORDING

TO LIST FURNISHED TO GERMAN EMBASSY, AT LEAST THIRTEEN 1968 FIGURES ARE KNOWN TO HAVE HAD THEIR HOMES SEARCHED AND TWO OTHERS HAVE BEEN INTERROGATED BY POLICE. LIST (SEE BELOW) INCLUDES THE FOUR WE HAD HEARD ABOUT.

3. DURING ITERROGATION, APPARENTLY NO EXPLICIT THREATS WERE ISSUED ABOUT TIRALS, BUT REFERENCE WAS MADE TO PARAGRAPHS 98 (SUBVERSION) AND 100 (INCITEMENT) OF THE PENAL CODE. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE SEARCHES WERE EXCEPTIONALLY THOROUGH AND LASTED 12 OR 13 HOURS, COVERING APARTMENTS, WEEKEND HOUSES, AND ALL FREQUENTED PLACES. SEARCHES WERE CONDUCTED IN ACCORD WITH "SOCIALIST LEGALITY, "WARRANTS HAVING BEEN OBTAINED IN ALL CASES. GERMAN EMBASSY BLEIEVES POLICE ARE TRYING TO TRACK DOWN ROUTES BY WHICH DUBCEK LETTER AND OTHER MATERIAL GOT ABROAD, AND THAT IF INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE IS FOUND, TRIALS WILL FOLLOW.

4. WELL KNOWN WRITER IVAN KLIMA (ONE OF THOSE WHOM PHILIP ROTH VISITED HERE RECENTLY, INCIDENTALLY) WASL ALSO REPORTEDLY SUBJECTED TO INTENSE SEARCH APRIL 26-7, AND POLICE APPARENTLY CONFISCATED HUGE AMOUNT OF MATERIAL, INCLUDING GREAT DEAL OF SAMIZDAT PUBLICATIONS.

5. GERMANS GATHER THAT POLICE ARE TRYING TO BUILD A CASE OF TREASON AGAINST DUBCEK. SINCE POPULAR EXPECTATION OF SOME KIND OF AMNESTY ON MAY 9 IS STILL WIDESPREAD IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, GERMANS DO NOT EXPECT ANY HARSH ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN PRIOR TO MAY 9. AFTER THAT, HOWEVER, THEY FEAR THAT REPRESSIVE MEASURES OF SOME KIND ARE BEING PREPARED, BASED ON EVIDENCE THEY HAVE BEEN GIVEN.

6. NAMES FURNISHED TO GERMAN EMBASSY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

VENEK SILHAN
ZDENEK MLYNAR
JOSEF SPACEK
ROBERT HORAK
JAN KREN
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JIRINA ZELENKOVA
ANTONIN HODIC
(FNU) JAROS
(FNU) GAJDOS
LADISLAV LIS
VOJTECH MENCL
PETR UHI
VILEM PRECAN

7. EMBASSY HAS JUST LEARNED FROM REUTERS THAT THEY AND OTHER
WESTERN PRESS AGENCIES HAVE RECEIVED LETTER FROM VACULIK
DESCRIBING SEARCH OF HIS AND LLIMA'S HOMES APRIL 26 AND THOSE OF
PRECAN, SILHAN AND KADLECIK APRIL 24. REUTERS WILL PROBABLY
FILE STORY ON LETTER.
PERRY

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